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SCIENTIFIC NEWS.

— *Nature* for June 1st contains a brief biography, with a steel portrait, of Professor Wyville Thompson, the leader of the Challenger Expedition, which returned to England May 27th, after a voyage around the world of about three years and a half. The expedition, says *Nature*, although by no means sensational, has been thoroughly successful. The Challenger has steadily traversed a track of sixty-nine thousand miles and during her absence of three years and a half from England has established three hundred and sixty-two observing stations, at all of which the depth has been ascertained with the greatest possible accuracy, and at nearly all the bottom temperature has been taken, a sample of the bottom water has been brought up for physical examination and chemical analysis, a sufficient specimen of the bottom has been procured, and the trawl or dredge has been lowered to ascertain the nature of the fauna. At most of these stations serial soundings have been taken with specially devised instruments, to ascertain, by the determinations of intermediate temperatures and by the analysis and physical examination of samples of water from intermediate depths, the directions and rate of movement of deep-sea currents. The only untoward event was the death of Dr. Willemöes-Suhm, one of the naturalists of the expedition. An illustrated account of the voyage in two volumes is nearly ready for publication, and promises to be of unusual interest.

— Dr. Elliott Coues, U. S. A., lately attached to the Northern Boundary Survey, has lately been ordered on duty with Professor Hayden's Geological Survey of the Territories, his address being the office of the U. S. Geological Survey of the Territories, 509 Seventh Street, Washington, D. C. It is a matter of congratulation that Dr. Coues's time will as heretofore be devoted to zoölogical pursuits.

— E. Billings, for many years the able palæontologist of the Canadian Geological Survey, has recently died.

— Rambles of a Naturalist in Egypt and other Countries, by J. H. Gurney, Jr., is announced by Jarrold and Sons, London.

— A botanical section of the Boston Society of Natural History has been formed, which meets during the summer every Monday at four P. M.

— The first wing of the Peabody Museum of Natural History of Yale College is now completed, and part of the collections have been placed within it. This wing is situated on the southwest corner of Elm and High streets. It is built of brick, with ornaments of light Nova Scotia sandstone. The cost of the building was about $140,000, and the cases will increase the expense to $175,000. The museum is much the largest structure yet erected for the college. The exterior is of Philadelphia pressed brick and Nova Scotia stone, with a podium or base of East Haven brown stone. The architecture of the lower stories is especially massive, the structure increasing in lightness as it rises. The construction is fire-proof throughout. There is an immense elevator, capable of taking up the largest fossils, which rises one hundred feet.

— The twenty-fifth meeting of the American Association for the Advancement of Science will be held at Buffalo, N. Y., beginning at ten o'clock A. M., on Wednesday, August 23d.

The address of Mr. F. W. Putnam, the Permanent Secretary, will be Salem, Mass., until *Saturday morning, August 19th ;* after that time, and until the meeting has adjourned, Buffalo, N. Y.

The officers of the Buffalo meeting are the following: President, William B. Rogers, of Boston; Vice President, Section A, Charles A. Young, of Hanover; Vice President, Section B, Edward S. Morse, of Salem; Chairman of Permanent Subsection of Chemistry, G. F. Barker, of Philadelphia; Chairman of Permanent Subsection of Anthropology, L. H. Morgan, of Rochester; Permanent Secretary, F. W. Putnam, of Salem; General Secretary, T. C. Mendenhall, of Columbus; Secretary of Section A, Arthur W. Wright, of New Haven; Secretary of Section B, Albert H. Tuttle, of Columbus; Treasurer, Thomas T. Bouvé, of Boston.

The attention of chemists is specially directed to the fact that the Chemical Subsection, formed at the Hartford meeting, has been made a permanent organization. The attention of entomologists is directed to the action taken by the entomologists at the last two meetings, and to the annual meeting of the Entomological Club of the Association which will be held at Buffalo, on Tuesday, August 22d (the day preceding the meeting of the Association), at which all interested are invited to be present.

A Permanent Subsection of Anthropology was organized at Detroit, and a committee was appointed for the purpose of developing the subsection at the Buffalo meeting. Members interested in this department are specially requested to make known the formation of the subsection. A circular issued by the special committee will be sent by the Permanent Secretary on request. It is expected that special arrangements will be made for the Subsection to attend the Archæological Convention to be held in Philadelphia, on September 4th.

It was suggested at the last meeting that special efforts be made to bring the microscopists together at Buffalo in order to form a permanent organization, either as a subsection or as a club on the plan of the Entomological Club. From the interest already evinced by a number of leading microscopists definite action will, undoubtedly, be taken on the subject at the coming meeting. For special information on this subject, microscopists may address Dr. R. H. Ward, 53 Fourth St., Troy, N. Y.

— It is proposed to hold an International Convention of Archæologists, at Philadelphia during the Centennial, and in connection with the Centennial Exhibition, for the purpose of promoting acquaintance and increasing the means of information in American Archæology and Ethnology. The "State Archæological Society of Ohio" will provide rooms for the Convention, and the first meeting will be held in the Ohio Building, at two o'clock, P. M., September 4, 1876. Those proposing to attend are requested to notify the Chairman of the Ohio Committee, Rev. S. D. Peet, Ashtabula, Ohio. At the meeting of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, at Buffalo, N. Y., August 23d, a Subsection of Anthropology will be formed. The Convention has been appointed near the close of the sessions of the "Association" in order that those who desire may conveniently attend both meetings.

— Messrs Longmans, Green, & Co., have recently published An Introduction to Animal Morphology and Systematic Zoölogy. Part I. Invertebrata. By Prof. Alexander Macalister. Macmillan & Co. have published The Geographical Distribution of Animals, by Alfred R. Wallace. 2 volumes, 8vo.

— The Third Bulletin (vol. ii.) of the United States Geological and Geographical Survey of the Territories has the following table of contents: Notes descriptive of some Geological Sections of the Country, about the Head-Waters of the Missouri and Yellowstone Rivers, by F. V. Hayden; Notes on the Tertiary and Cretaceous Periods of Kansas, by B. F. Mudge; Notes concerning a Contour Map of the United States, by Henry Gannett; The Flora of Southwestern Colorado, by T. S. Brandegee; Brief Synopsis of North American Earwigs, with an Appendix on the Fossil Species, List of the Orthoptera collected by Dr. A. S. Packard in Colorado and the Neighboring Territories during the Summer of 1875; Notice of a Small Collection of Butterflies made by Dr. A. S. Packard in Colorado and Utah in 1875, by S. H. Scudder; Notes on the Grammatical Structure of the Nez Percés Language, by George Ainslie.

— The Appalachian Club of Boston issued the first number of its journal under the title of *Appalachia*, about the middle of July. It contains a sketch map of the White Mountains, profile of Trapyramid, with other papers, and the proceedings of the club.

— Dr. Kidder's contributions to the Natural History of Kerguelen Island, made in connection with the United States Transit-of-Venus Expedition, in 1874–75, contains articles on the eggs of birds, by Drs. J. H. Kidder and E. Coues; on the botany, by Dr. Asa Gray; geology, by Drs. F. M. Endlich and Kidder; on the mollusks, by W. H. Dall; the insects, by Baron R. Ostensacken and Dr. H. A. Hagen; the crustaceans, by Prof. S. I. Smith; the annelids and echinoderms, by Prof. A. E. Verrill. The number concludes with a study of *Chionis minor*, with reference to its structure and systematic position, by J. H. Kidder and Elliott Coues.

— We have received a folio pamphlet of twenty-four pages, on the invertebrate animals of Travemünder Bay, by H. Lenz, being appendix

I to the Annual Report for 1874–75 of the Commission for the Scientific Investigation of the German Sea at Kiel. These reports are of much scientific and practical value, and it would be very desirable if the United States Government could have similar work done in connection with the Coast Survey.

— Mr. Julius Stoerzer, of the National Museum at Washington, died on the 13th of May, aged thirty-four years, leaving a wife and child. Mr. Stoerzer, at the time of his death, was unquestionably the most thoroughly trained and really scientific taxidermist in the country. A pupil of the celebrated Martin, a good comparative anatomist, an enthusiast in his profession; his very skeleton frames of boards and hoop-iron had more life and action in them than the completed inflations we are generally asked to call stuffed animals. The magnificent group of fur seals, now at the Centennial Exhibition, is one of his masterpieces, and is unequaled in any part of the world so far as those animals are concerned. Mr. Stoerzer's death is regretted by all who knew him, and it is felt that with him an artist as well as a preparator has passed away, who can hardly be replaced.

PROCEEDINGS OF SOCIETIES.

Philosophical Society of Washington. — April 22. Major J. W. Powell read a paper on monoclinal folds in orographic geology, tending to show that the higher the strata were elevated above the general surface, the greater the proportional rapidity of their denudation or erosion. He also showed how by unequal elevation on two sides of a fault and general erosion, beds of unequal age might be brought into such close proximity as to lead to errors in identification. This was illustrated by the case of the Green River beds, referred by Cope, Lesquereux, and Hayden to different horizons as a whole, from specimens gathered from apparently identical strata within a few hundred yards of each other. While each investigator had rightly referred the organic remains submitted to his examination to their proper horizon, the error, according to the speaker, had arisen from supposing that the adjoining and apparently identical beds were really continuous; when, actually, faulting had taken place on three cross lines of fracture, with differing elevation and uniform erosion, thus bringing into almost exact parallelism, beds of different age.

A discussion followed in which the question of the thickness of the earth's crust was debated. Mr. Taylor, Major Powell and others, finding it difficult to reconcile the multifarious changes of level of small areas with a crust of great thickness, while Captain Dutton regarded a solid nucleus with a hydrothermal plastic layer between it and the outer crust as meeting the requirements of the case.

Cambridge Entomological Club. — March 10. Mr. Burgess de-